

THE THIRTY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Bridgwater Rural Sanitary Authority

FOR THE YEAR 1904.

PREPARED BY

FRANCIS J. C. PARSONS, Medical Officer.

RICHARD POPHAM, Sanitary Inspector.

BRIDGWATER :

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The Thirty-second Annual Report

OF THE

Bridgwater Rural Sanitary Authority

FOR THE YEAR 1904.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

In presenting to you my Annual Report for the year 1904 I am happy to say that the scheme for supplying six districts with a pure and constant supply of water has been satisfactorily carried out, to the benefit of over 6,600 people. Such will, I am confident, play a conspicuous part in improving the health of the districts.

Regarding the vital statistics of the year, 224 deaths were registered, as against 197 in 1903, representing an annual rate of mortality of 13·4, as against 11·8 in the year previous. Of these 224 deaths, 104 occurred aged 65 and upwards and 37 under 1 year of age.

In the Western Division of the district 106 deaths were registered and 118 in the Eastern.

Of the several causes of death 13 resulted from Phthisis, 37 from Pneumonia, Bronchitis or Pleurisy, 35 from Heart Disease, and in 8 cases Injuries proved fatal.

From the seven chief Epidemic Diseases 10 deaths were registered, as against 18 in 1903, a very marked decrease, representing the extremely low zymotic death-rate of 0·5 per 1000 of the population.

WESTERN STOWEY.

Population 3,795.

			1903.	1904.
Birth Rate	..	..	19'7	16.3
Death Rate	..	..	13'2	13'7

This district, so sadly stricken with zymotic disease in 1903, has, I am glad to say, resumed its accustomed measure of good health.

The three villages of Aisholt, Nether Stowey, and Over Stowey, situated on the slope of the Quantocks, are well supplied with pure water. The drainage is good and about to be still further improved at Bincombe and Castle Hill. The dwellings of the working classes are good.

The Schools at Nether Stowey have received much attention and are now in a perfect Sanitary condition.

No diseases of a zymotic character have been notified to me, nor at Fiddington, a village close adjoining, where the sanitary arrangements are good, with a fairly good water supply, and the dwellings of the working classes improved.

Stockland Bristol and Otterhampton, two villages adjoining one another. In the former 1 case of Diphtheria and 4 of Scarlatina were notified to me—evidently imported from without. The drainage and water supply of these two villages are fairly good, and the dwellings of the working classes improved.

Combwich. The defective condition of the drainage of this village referred to in my last report has been satisfactorily remedied. A new system of sewerage has taken the place of the old and imperfect one, much to the benefit of the inhabitants, and the village has during the past year been free from Zymotic disease; dwellings of the working classes improved.

Cannington. This village maintains its character for good health. The drainage is improved, water supply good, but I am strongly of an opinion that a pure and uninterrupted supply of water from the Bridgwater Corporation should be obtained. The condition of the dwellings of the working classes is improved. 1 case of Puerperal Fever and 2 of Scarlatina were notified to me.

Charlinch. Healthy village, drainage and water supply good. Dwellings of the working classes improved.

Spaxton. Drainage and water supply good. Dwellings of the working classes improved. 1 case of Scarlatina notified to me.

WESTERN PETHERTON.

Population 4,848.

			1903.	1904.
Birth Rate	..	..	23·6	23·4
Death Rate	..	..	12·2	11·8

The villages of Enmore, Goathurst, Broomfield, and Thurloxton, comprising a portion of the Western Petherton district possess good drainage and water supply, and the dwellings of the working classes are much improved.

No cases of zymotic disease have been notified to me and the healthy condition of these villages appears well maintained.

Lyng. Drainage and water supply good. Dwellings of the working classes improved. 5 cases of Scarlatina were notified to me necessitating the closure of the school.

North Petherton. A pure and uninterrupted supply of water has now been supplied to this village which must have a marked influence for good in the health and comfort of its inhabitants. The drainage and dwellings of the working classes are improved. 1 case of Diphtheria and 4 of Scarlatina were notified to me.

BRIDGWATER (western part).

Population 814.

			1903.	1904.
Birth Rate	..	..	19·6	22·1
Death Rate	..	..	6·1	11·0

Durleigh, Wembdon, and Chilton Trinity. Although much improvement has taken place in the drainage of Wembdon a further scheme is in contemplation which will almost immediately be carried out. The schools are also to be supplied with water from the Corporation mains. 1 case of Scarlatina was notified to me.

EASTERN MIDDLEZOY.

Population 1,967.

			1903.	1904.
Birth Rate	..	..	15·6	23·3
Death Rate	..	..	11·6	15·2

Much has been done of late in the three villages, Othery, Middlezoy, and Westonzoyland, comprising this district to improve the condition of the drainage, and that with success. I regret that Scarlatina has been so prevalent, no less than 17 cases were notified to me, and 7 of Diphtheria, fortunately of a mild character as no death resulted. The water supply is fairly good, and the dwellings of the working classes are improved.

A portion of Dunwear with Somerset Bridge is now supplied with water by the Rural District Council. The remaining portion of Bridgwater Without will almost immediately be supplied from the Corporation mains.

EASTERN HUNTSPILL.

Population 6,350.

		1903.	1904.
Birth Rate	.. ..	23'9	23'5
Death Rate	.. ..	10'5	13'8

Bawdrip, Puriton, Pawlett, and Huntspill, comprising a portion of this district, possess at present much of interest since there has been brought within their midst a pure and adequate supply of water which I am happy to say the inhabitants have gladly availed themselves of, that such will prove of inestimable value to them I have no doubt. The dwellings of the working classes are improved, and although to effectually drain this district is a matter of much difficulty still every effort is made to carry out "matters sanitary." 6 cases of Scarlatina were notified me from Pawlett.

Woolavington. Healthy village with fairly good drainage and water. I am still of an opinion that the water supply should have been extended to this village. Dwellings of the working classes improved.

Cossington. The new system of drainage works well and must be of immense benefit to this village. Water supply good. Dwellings of the working classes improved.

Chedzoy. A pure and uninterrupted supply of water has been provided for this village which must be greatly appreciated by the inhabitants. The drainage of this village, situated as it is on a dead level, is a matter of much difficulty. In order to improve such, a flushing tank has been erected at the western end of the sewer, which will no doubt prove of much service in a sanitary point of view. Dwellings of the working classes improved.

Moorlinch. Much has been done to remedy the defective condition of the drainage of this village. Water supply good. Dwellings of the working classes improved. 2 cases of Scarlatina notified to me.

Chilton Polden & Edington. Water supply good. Drainage improved. Dwellings of the working classes good.

Sutton Mallet & Stawell. Drainage improved. Water supply good. Dwellings of the working classes improved.

Catcott Burtle. Water supply fairly good. Drainage improved. Dwellings of the working classes improved.

Shapwick. Water difficulty still present. Drainage improved. Dwellings of the working classes good.

Ashcott. A new drain has been constructed in this village. Water supply remains still somewhat deficient. Dwellings of the working classes improved.

Greinton. Water supply good. Drainage good. Dwellings of the working classes improved.

ANTHRAX. A case of Anthrax was notified to me on December 21st amongst some cows at Stockmoor, and on the 29th at Puriton, in each instance the carcasses were promptly cremated and the disease did not spread.

Your obedient Servant,

FRANCIS JNO. C. PARSONS.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to hand you my Report of Administrative Work for year ending December, 1904.

I have during the year 1904 made inspection of the whole of the District from time to time and have had brought to my notice 244 complaints, all of which have had the best of my attention, and in cases where necessary Statutory Notices have been served by Council's directions and the following nuisances have been abated.

Defective Privies, 25
 Ditches fouled, 20
 Pigs kept improperly, 10
 Defective Drainage, 19
 Wells polluted, 3
 Premises in dirty state, 14
 Council's Drains Choked and Broken in, 20
 Council's Cesspools cleaned out, 10
 New W.C. built, 10
 Disinfecting rooms after Fever and Diphtheria, 31
 Dangerous Buildings pulled down, 7
 Overcrowding cases, 5
 Tested New Drains, 20

MILKSHOPS AND DAIRIES have been inspected from time to time and have been whitened out where found in a dirty condition.

BAKEHOUSES have been inspected and in several cases have been found not kept clean, they have had same whitened out and made clean and have complied with the Act.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES have been inspected from time to time, and the owners have, where same have been found in a unsanitary state, had necessary work done and nuisances abated.

Eight samples of WATER have been taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, four were found to be polluted.

2 Carcases of Beef have been seized and destroyed, and a portion of another seized and destroyed.

The Factories Act have been complied with and notices served in four cases, and the Workshops have been ventilated and whitened out.

ASHCOTT COUNCIL have had about 100 yards of New Drains laid at this village.

RICHARD POPHAM,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904 in the Bridgwater Rural Sanitary District.

Notifiable Disease.				At all Ages.	Stowey.	Petherton.	Middlezoy.	Huntspill.
Diphtheria	..	...	...	9	1	1	7	
Erysipelas	...	...	...	4		1	3	
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	42	7	4	23	8
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	1	1			
Totals				56	9	6	33	8

Births in the Rural Sanitary Authority during the Year 1904.

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total.
Stowey	13	19	14	16	62
North Petherton	31	29	23	24	107
Middlezoy	18	10	8	10	46
Huntspill	34	35	41	39	149
Durleigh	—	—	—	1	1
Wembdon	6	2	3	3	14
Chilton Trinity	—	2	—	1	0
Rate per 1000—21·3					382
1903	„	„	—21·3		

Table shewing CAUSES OF, and AGES AT DEATH, during the Year 1904, in the District of the
Bridgwater Rural Sanitary District.

	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Stowey.	Petherton.	Middlezoy.	Huntspill.
Measles	1	1						1			
Scarlet Fever	2		2					1	1		
Whooping Cough	3	1	2					2		1	
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	1					1			1		
Fever	1			1						1	
Epidemic Influenza	3	1				2		1	1		1
Diarrhoea	3	3				2			2		1
Enteritis	3					2			1	1	1
Phthisis	13			1	3	9	1		4	1	6
Cancer	19					7	12	3	4	3	9
Bronchitis	22	3	1			1	17	5	7	2	8
Pneumonia	13			1		5	7	3	3	4	3
Pluerisy	2				2				1		1
Premature Birth	14							4	2	2	6
Heart Diseases	35	1			1	11	22	6	8	3	18
Accidents	6	2			1	3		1	1	2	2
Suicides	2					1	1		1		1
All other Causes	81	11	4	2	1	19	44	23	17	10	31
	224	37	9	5	8	61	104	52	54	30	88

**Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and
Previous Years in the Bridgwater Rural Sanitary
District.**

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Pub- lic Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Resi- dents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Nett deaths at all ages be- longing to the district	
				Under 1 year		All ages.					
		Number.	Rate *	Number.	Rate per 1000 births re- gistered.	Number.	Rate *			Number.	Rate *
1894	19095	481	26·4	46	91·0	246	13·5			246	13·5
1895	19301	446	25·3	37	87·1	259	14·8			259	14·8
1896	19513	444	24·8	38	80·6	244	13·05			244	13·05
1897	19724	461	26·0	37	78·6	236	13·2			236	13·2
1898	19928	432	24·4	42	90·3	247	14·0			247	14·0
1899	20099	416	22·7	40	99·9	240	12·9			240	12·9
1900	20326	372	20·5	39	107·4	228	12·7			228	12·7
1901	16680	357	21·3	38	101·8	200	11·9			200	11·9
1902	16680	379	22·7	26	68·6	228	13·6			228	13·6
1903	16680	366	21·3	26	71·0	197	11·8			197	11·8
Averages for years 1894-1903.											
	18802	415	22·0	36	86·7	232	12·3			232	12·3
1904	16680	364	21·2	37	101·6	224	13·4			224	13·4

* Calculated at per 1000 of estimated Population.

Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1904 and previous years in the Bridgwater Rural Sanitary District.

Year.	STOWEY.				PETHERTON.				MIDDLEZOY.				HUNTSPELL.			
	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1894	4408	94	60	7	4963	132	58	12	2206	42	32	8	4292	132	55	11
1895	4442	81	67	8	5020	123	73	15	2213	58	26	3	4369	103	35	3
1896	4474	98	50	6	5066	107	67	9	2253	69	29	9	4431	90	48	10
1897	4517	87	43	8	5128	127	64	10	2275	65	33	4	4483	109	47	11
1898	4560	91	58	7	5170	118	67	14	2325	60	28	6	4519	83	66	11
1899	4596	96	56	10	5228	115	60	12	2344	49	27	6	4532	82	62	8
1900	4627	69	50	8	4568	111	60	12	2366	45	28	2	4556	42	48	8
1901	3795	71	35	6	4568	96	55	10	1967	44	25	4	6350	146	85	18
1902	3795	86	57	6	5344	99	52	9	1967	52	32	6	6350	142	87	5
1903	3795	75	51	6	4568	108	56	8	1967	31	23	5	6350	152	67	7
Average of Years 1894 to 1903.	4300	84	52	7	4962	113	61	11	2188	51	28	5	5023	108	60	9
1904	3795	62	52	10	4568	107	54	7	1967	46	30	5	6350	149	88	15

THE THIRTY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY CONDITION OF BRIDGWATER
FOR THE YEAR 1904.

PREPARED BY
FRANCIS J. C. PARSONS, Medical Officer.
FRANCIS PARR, M.I.C.E., Borough Surveyor.

BRIDGWATER :
Printed and Published by PAGE & SON, Fore Street.

1905.

The Thirty-second Annual Report

OF THE

Sanitary Condition of Bridgwater

For the Year ending 1904.



Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

In presenting to you my Annual Report for the year 1904, it is with much pleasure I congratulate you on the very satisfactory nature of the Vital Statistics I am about to lay before you.

Taking into consideration the excess in the number of births over deaths, and allowing for removals, etc. etc., I estimate the population at 15,600

STATISTICS.

Area 923 Acres. Population 15,600.
Inhabited Houses 3,297.

			1903.	1904.
Birth Rate	...	...	31·8	31·5
Death Rate	...	...	17·0	16·8
Zymotic Rate	...	...	2·0	1·7
Infant Mortality per 1000 Births			118·2	115·3

There were 265 deaths registered in the Borough during the past year, as against 262 in 1903, representing an Annual Death Rate of 16·8 per 1000 of the estimated population.

Of these 265 deaths, 24 occurred in the Bridgwater Infirmary and 40 in the Union Workhouse, deducting these 64 deaths, 201 remain, representing an Annual Rate of Mortality of 12·8 as against 13·7 in 1903.

Year.	Population.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000.	District.
1903.	15,400.	262.	17.0	Western 114
				Workhouse 29
				Eastern 95
				Infirmary 21
				Isolation Hospital 3
1904.	15,600.	265.	16.8	Western 103
				Workhouse 40
				Eastern 98
				Infirmary 24

Considering that the number of Births throughout England is becoming less every year, it is gratifying to find that 3 more Births were registered in Bridgwater during 1904, than in 1903.

Of the various causes of Death, 20 resulted from Phthisis, 43 from Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Pleurisy, 24 from Heart Disease, and 12 from Accidents, and in 16 cases Inquests were held.

Infant Mortality remains much the same. 57 Deaths as against 58 in 1903, but when compared with the number of Births it is satisfactory to note that the Rate of Mortality per 1000 Births is 115.3, as against 118.2 in 1903.

From the seven chief Epidemic Diseases, 25 Deaths were registered, as against 31 in 1903. These Deaths resulted from what I may term the "minor" forms of Zymotic Disease, *viz.*, Whooping Cough and Measles, no less than 14 Deaths were registered as occasioned by the former Disease, and 6 from the latter. Diarrhœa caused 4 Deaths, and 1 Death from Enteric Fever imported from without.

It is a matter of congratulation that these baneful Diseases have spared us that sad inroad which for two previous years we so sadly suffered from.

Administrative Work.

With reference to the Administrative Sanitary Work of the Borough, we have the honour to report that during the year ending 31st December, 1904, 301 Notices have been issued, as against 185 in the previous year, which may be classified as follows :

Notices brought before the Health Committee	171
Miscellaneous Notices	130
	<hr/>
	301

The Notices brought before the Health Committee have reference to a total of 349 defects as follows :—

	Reported.	Abated.	In hand.
Drains from w.c.'s and gullies			
choked	55	53	2
Defective Iron Traps	16	14	2
Dirty and defective condition			
of w.c.'s.	22	19	3
Defective trough closets	13	21	2
Premises without proper drain-			
age	3	2	1
Defective drains	7	7	
W.C.'s without flushing ap-			
paratus	9	7	2
Defective condition of paving			
to courts, passages, &c. ...	19	18	1
Overcrowding	5	5	
Defective eaves, gutters, and			
fallpipes	53	48	5
Dangerous and defective chim-			
neys	8	8	
Dangerous walls	7	7	
Dangerous buildings	2	2	
Houses unfit for habitation ...	2	2	
Defective roofs to buildings ...	4	4	
Keeping Pigs within undue			
proximity of dwellinghouse	5	5	
Accumulation of ashes, etc. ...	46	46	
Overhanging hedges, trees, etc.	21	20	1

With reference to the general state of cleanliness of the town, we have to still call attention to the practise of depositing ashes and vegetable refuse in the back courts and gardens, and the result of the extra inspection given to this matter is seen in the above list.

The year 1904 has not been marked by any important feature in the way of improvement of the town, it has been more a year of preparation and steady work, but the opening months of 1905 will witness the carrying out of the new works in connection with the Corporation Dépôt in Clare Street and the improvement at the corner of York Buildings by the removal of shop and premises lately occupied by Mr. Barton.

Dairies and Milkshops Order.

We have not received any complaints as to the condition of these premises and on the inspections made from time to time have found the premises clean and wholesome.

Slaughter Houses.

These have been inspected three times during the past year, and so far as the buildings are concerned, cleanliness has been better maintained. 16 Notices relating principally to cleanliness and repair have been served on the various owners and occupiers and the defects have in every case received attention. It is, however, a matter of consideration looking at the steady continued increase of population within the Urban District whether or not the preparation of animals for the food of man should be carried on in buildings situated as the Slaughter Houses in this town are, *viz.*, in such close proximity to dwelling houses.

Workshop and Factories Act, 1901.

With these are included bake-houses, and with regard to these, two general inspections have been made during the year out of which 12 Notices dealing with repairs and white-washing have been served and have been attended to.

With regard to the Factories and Workshops 126 Inspections have been made, out of which 26 Notices dealing with cleansing and general sanitary defects have been served and these in nearly every case have been attended to. Some are still under consideration owing to contemplated alterations.

Food and Drugs Act.

During the year under consideration, 46 samples have been taken, *viz.*, 28 of Milk, 11 of Lard, 5 of Butter, and 2 of Coffee, and all were pronounced to be genuine with the exception of 1 sample of milk. No proceedings however were ordered to be taken but a strong warning was sent to the seller.

Drainage.

In our Report for the year 1903 we drew attention to the very defective Drainage in rear of the houses on both sides of Provident Place, and to the houses on the North side of the Wembdon Road, between the Canal and the Back Road. These have now all been re-constructed with Sanitary Stone-ware Pipes, Manholes, and ventilators, and the house connections relaid and put in proper order, so that the Sanitary condition of this District should be considerably improved.

We have still trouble with the Main Sewer in Northgate from King's Square in Angel Crescent, it has required frequent cleansing, but nothing short of entire reconstruction will do any good, and this naturally opens up a large question.

The Town Council have during the year reconstructed sewers, dealing with two or more houses on private property in Friarn Lawn, Castle Street, New Street, Church Street, and Bath Road, which were found on examination to be in a most defective condition, and in 34 other cases they have been called upon to clean and unstop sewers which had become blocked up.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act.

The year 1904 has seen a very great decrease in the number of cases notified under this Act, and although the record of 1903 was a low one, yet 1904 is better still, there being only 14 cases notified and one admission to the Isolation Hospital. We have this year refrained from giving further tables as to the months of the year in which the cases have occurred and the various streets affected, such information being hardly necessary nor do the cases themselves call for any particular remark.

			1904.	1903.
Diphtheria	...	...	5	21
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...		1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	8	12
			—	—
			14	35

Following the example set us in the two previous years, we also submit the following tables :—

No. 1. As affecting the Sexes.

	Diphtheria.		Scarlet Fever.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
On the West side of the River	2		4	1
On the East side of the River	2	1	3	1
			Enteric Fever.	
			Males.	Females.
On the West side of the River				
On the East side of the River			1	

No. 2. As affecting the Ages of those attacked.

			Diphtheria.	Scarlatina.
Under 3	Years of Age			1
"	6	"	1	1
"	7	"	1	1
"	8	"	2	
"	9	"		2
"	10	"		1
"	11	"		1
"	13	"	1	
Adults	...	...		1
Total			5	8

There was only one fatal case arising from Diphtheria, in a child six years of age.

New Streets and Buildings.

During the past year 65 plans affecting New Streets and Buildings have received the consideration of the Plans Committee, the various descriptions may be summarized as follows :—

Dwelling Houses	...	...	42
Alterations and Additions	...	...	11
Public Buildings	...	...	2
Workshops, including Alterations & Additions			3
Sundry Small Buildings	...	...	5
New Sewers	...	...	1
New Streets	...	...	1
			65

House Inspection.

We have to report that 26 Dwelling Houses and 2 Workshops have been erected and completed during the year and were found on examination to be carried out in accordance with the Bye Laws.

Rainfall.

As in past years tables are appended shewing the Rainfall for the year just concluded, at the pumping station at Ashford and at the Nurseries, Bridgwater, the particulars of which have been kindly supplied by Mr. Corder. We also append the result of our observations for the last 5 years, from which it will be observed that the year 1903 stands far and away above all others for heavy rainfall.

With regard to the Ashford returns, no rain fell on 168 days as against 184 days in 1903. February was the wettest month as against October in the previous year, and June was the driest month as against April in 1903 and 1902. In connection with this it is interesting to note that at Ashford last February rain fell on 22 days out of the 29.

With regard to the Town returns, practically no rain fell on 185 days as against 164 in 1903. In 1904 February was the wettest month as against October in 1903, and June was the driest month as against February in 1903.

Month.	ASHFORD.				BRIDGWATER.			
	Total Depth.	Greatest Fall in 24 hours.		No. of days on which .1 or more Rain fell.	Total Depth.	Greatest Fall in 24 hours.		No. of days on which .1 or more Rain fell.
	Inches	Depth	Date		Inches	Depth	Date	
January ...	3·25	·58	30	20	3·37	·48	29	25
February ...	5·20	·75	2	22	4·64	·27	1	23
March ...	2·01	·64	7	13	1·90	·48	7	13
April ...	1·02	·25	6	11	·90	·22	5	12
May ...	2·11	·42	2	17	2·13	·34	26	19
June ...	·99	·27	2	9	·90	·29	14	10
July ...	2·92	1·02	26	12	3·22	·93	25	12
August ...	2·44	·49	23	15	2·13	·50	21	18
September ...	1·75	·28	14	10	1·70	·46	13	12
October ...	1·90	·39	7	13	1·33	·47	16	14
November ...	1·79	·55	11	11	1·68	·56	10	12
December ...	1·84	·36	7	15	1·68	·36	6	15
Total ...	27·22	1·02	26 July	168	25·58	·93	25 July	185

Rainfall for previous 5 Years.

	Ashford.	Bridgwater.
1900.	32·44	30·80
1901.	25·16	23·17
1902.	25·20	22·79
1903.	40·31	37·92
1904.	27·22	25·58

BIRTHS IN THE URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

DURING THE YEAR 1904.

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total.
Bridgwater	128	128	132	106	494

Rate per 1000—31·5.

DURING THE YEAR 1903.

Bridgwater	100	128	136	127	491
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Rate per 1000—31·8.

Table shewing Birth and Death Rate, Infantile Mortality and Zymotic Death Rate.

	Birth Rate per 1000 Population	Death Rate per 1000 Population	Infant Mortality.		Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	
			Per 1000 deaths	Per 1000 births	Per 1000 Population	Per 1000 Deaths.
1903 }	31·8	17·0	221·3	118·1	2·0	118·3
1904 }	31·5	16·8	215·4	115·3	1·7	101·8

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1904 and previous Years in the Bridgwater Sanitary Sub-district.

BRIDGWATER SUB-DISTRICT.				
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year
1894	15077	456	253	41
1895	15281	461	303	55
1896	15490	497	318	65
1897	15545	511	293	50
1898	15812	531	264	59
1899	15862	525	309	54
1900	15900	533	292	69
1901	16014	531	293	56
1902	16214	591	296	68
1903	16214	507	267	58
Averages of Years 1894 to 1903	15740	514	288	57
1904	16414	512	274	59

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904 in the Bridgwater Sub-district.

At all Ages. Wembdon.			
Diphtheria	..	6	
Erysipelas	..	4	
Scarlet Fever	..	8	1
Enteric Fever	..	1	
		19	1

Table shewing CAUSES OF, and AGES AT DEATH, during the Year 1904, in the District of the
Bridgwater Sub-district.

		All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Wembdon.	Chilton Trinity.	Durleigh	Deaths in Public Institutions
Measles	..	6	5	1								
Whooping Cough	..	14	7									
Enteric Fever	..	1					1					
Epidemic Influenza	..	3						3			1	
Diarrhoea	..	4										
Enteritis	..	5						2				1
Phthisis	..	20	1	2	3		14					9
Cancer	..	10					6					1
Bronchitis	..	25	1				7	8	2			1
Pneumonia	..	20	3				5	7				3
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	..	3					1	2				1
Premature Birth	..	9							1			
Heart Diseases	..	26		4	2	2	10	10	1	1		7
Accidents	..	12	1	4	3	3	1	1				3
All other Causes	..	116	2	3	3	3	31	57	1	2		38
		274	59	20	14	11	76	94	5	3	1	64

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and Previous Years in the Bridgwater Sub-district.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Nett deaths at all ages belonging to the district	
				Under 1 year		All ages.				Number.	Rate *
		Number.	Rate *	Number.	Rate per 1000 births registered.	Number.	Rate *				
1894	15077	456	33.2	41	95.2	253	18.5	46		253	18.5
1895	15281	461	33.0	55	117.7	303	21.5	63		303	21.5
1896	15490	497	36.1	65	138.0	318	24.2	57		318	24.2
1897	15545	511	34.9	50	100.2	293	20.2	54		293	20.2
1898	15812	531	36.2	59	115.9	264	18.2	59		264	18.2
1899	15862	525	34.3	54	106.02	309	21.6	64		309	21.6
1900	15900	533	36.7	69	128.3	292	19.7	62		292	19.7
1901	16014	531	33.8	56	108.7	293	18.8	56		293	18.8
1902	16214	591	36.4	68	115.0	296	18.2	46	4	296	18.2
1903	16214	507	31.2	58	114.3	267	16.4	53	29	267	16.4
Averages for years 1894-1903.	15740	514	32.5	57	110.8	288	18.2	56	3	288	18.2
1904	16414	512	31.3	59	115.2	274	16.6	64	30	274	16.6

* Calculated at per 1000 of estimated Population.

PORT OF BRIDGWATER.

We have much pleasure in submitting our report on the work of this Authority for the year ending 31st December, 1904. First of all submitting the yearly returns shewing Number and Tonnage of Sailing and Steam Vessels belonging to the Port of Bridgwater.

	1904.	1903.
Number of Sailing Vessels ...	75	76
Net Tonnage of same ..	4665 tons	4690 tons
Number of Steam Vessels ...	11	10
Net Tonnage of same ...	599 tons	496 tons

Returns shewing Number and Tonnage of Vessels entering the Port of Bridgwater during the year ending the 31st of December, 1904.

		With Cargoes.				In Ballast.			
		Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Coastwise	British ...	1482	85741	493	36035	121	5958	24	1288
	Foreign ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	729	.....	.....
Foreign	British ...	13	1320	1	400	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Foreign ...	33	6965	12	4179	1	163	.....	.....

The above Returns gives the following totals of Ships and Tonnage of all classes throughout the year 1904.

			1904.		1903.	
			Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
British	...	...	2134	130,742	1999	118,377
Foreign	...	...	52	12,036	58	11,165

The General Statistics of the Sanitary work may be summed up as follows :—

Number of Vessels inspected	...	1667
Number of Sanitary Defects	...	8

The details of above Defects which were reported are as follows :—

			British.	Foreign.	Total.
Dirty Forecastle	...	...	1	4	5
Bad Water	...	...	1		1
Dirty Latrines	...	...		2	2
			2	6	8

During the past year the general health of the Port has been very good, one Vessel with 3 cases of Beri Beri being notified and one case of illness removed to the Infirmary, both of which were reported to you at the meeting in October.

Your obedient Servants,

FRANCIS JNO. C. PARSONS,

Medical Officer of Health.

FRANCIS PARR,

Sanitary Inspector.
